

Largesse, Lifestyle Attracted Big Names Riding Along on the Rewald Roll

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When at his peak, Ronald R. Rewald, with his rich, flamboyant lifestyle, attracted plenty of friends and admirers.

Since his indictment on state theft charges and with his business a shambles, it is difficult to find people willing to step forward and disclose their association with the head of the bankrupt investment company Bishop, Baldwin, Rewald, Dillingham & Wong.

Some are embarrassed at having invested money with the company only to learn that the money was probably used to pay for Rewald's personal expenses, as authorities have said. Others who worked for Rewald as consultants would just as soon not have their names associated with the company while they try to find new jobs. Still others simply

had been along for the fast ride while Rewald paid the bills and poured the champagne.

One of the chief beneficiaries of Rewald's free-spending ways was the Hawaii Polo Club. According to court records, Rewald pumped hundreds of thousands of dollars into polo-related activities.

According to court records, Rewald paid polo player Al Lopaka \$1200 a month as a consultant and paid Lopaka's \$1000-a-month rent for a house on a Waimanalo ranch.

BUT EVEN with the polo club's chief booster in prison in lieu of \$10 million bail, polo, apparently, must go on.

Polo enthusiast Robert Schriver sent a letter to polo fans on Aug. 10, the day after Rewald was arrested, stating, "To set everyone's mind at ease, our polo season will continue as scheduled."

There was intentionally no

mention of Rewald or his predicament, Schriver said yesterday.

"It is difficult for polo to be affected by the actions of one person," he said.

The letter states that club pro Ronnie Tongg, whom Rewald had been paying \$2,000 a month, had been assured by bankruptcy trustee Thomas Hayes that polo would be allowed to continue.

Then the letter went on to congratulate the people who made the pupus at the game on the previous weekend and gave a rundown of how the polo teams fared. During that weekend, Rewald was in Queen's Hospital recovering from his attempted suicide.

"It was good to see Enrique Zobel back on the Mokuleia field, playing the Argentine ponies that he and the Sultan of Brunei shipped to Hawaii from Argentina," the letter continued. "Glad to have you back Enrique."

Zobel, a Philippines banker, is one of the many businessmen Rewald met through the polo club. Rewald and Zobel recently formed a real estate property development company called Ayala Hawaii Corp.

REWALD ALSO did a little bit of business with the Sultan of Brunei, according to one of the many items about Rewald that appeared in newspaper three-dot columns. In July, the Sultan reportedly bought two new Corvettes from MotorCars Hawaii, an exotic auto dealership Rewald owns with businessman Bill Barstenstein.

Another international figure Rewald had contact with was the former prime minister of Cambodia, Lon Nol, who came to Hawaii in 1975 after being overthrown. In 1979, Rewald bought Lon Nol's

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